

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OMAHA -- Three public meetings to review the 2002 Annual Operating Plan for the Missouri River will be conducted this month by the Army Corps of Engineers. The first will be April 9 at the Ramkota Hotel, 920 W. Sioux Ave., Pierre, S.D., beginning at 7 p.m. The second will be April 10 at the Corps' Northwestern Division office, 12565 West Center Road, Omaha, Neb., beginning at 5 p.m. The third will be April 11 at the Marriott Kansas City Airport, 775 Brasilia Ave., Kansas City, Mo., beginning at 7 p.m.

Following presentations on the current Missouri River reservoir operations and forecasted water supply conditions with this year's plan, members of the public will be invited to comment and discuss the plan. "We're looking forward to hearing from the many groups and individuals affected by our operational decisions," said Larry Cieslik, Chief of the Missouri River Basin Water Management Division here.

Corps officials will provide an update on the current spring runoff outlook and the planned 2002 reservoir operations. They will outline the regulation for flood control, hydropower generation, navigation, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife, water supply, water quality and endangered species. Discussions will center on fine-tuning the plan presented for comment last fall.

Public meetings on reservoir management are routinely held each spring and fall. Additional information is available from the Water Management Office in Omaha, Neb., at (402) 697-2675.

Daily and forecast reservoir and river information is available on the Missouri River basin water management section of the Northwestern Division homepage at: www.nwd.usace.army.mil.